

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A strengthening material suitable for use as reinforcement in composites, said strengthening material comprising:

at least one singular thickness-providing layer in the form of a knit, said knit being formed of including glass fibers and at least one monofilament and a member selected from the group consisting of glass filaments, glass yarns and combinations thereof;[[,]] and

at least one singular strengthening layer connected to the singular thickness-providing layer.

2. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one monofilament is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polyester, polypropylene, polyamide, synthetic materials and combinations thereof.

3. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the singular thickness-providing layer has a thickness from 0.5 millimeter up to and including 20 millimeters.

4. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 3, wherein the singular thickness-providing layer has a thickness from 1 millimeter up to and including 10 millimeters.

5. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the singular thickness-providing layer has a weight from 25 g/m² up to and including 1500 g/m².

6. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 5, wherein the singular thickness-providing layer has a weight from 50 g/m² up to and including 1000 g/m².

7. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the singular strengthening layer is selected from the group consisting of glass fibers, aramid,

carbon, basalt, ceramic, mixtures of glass and thermoplastics, flax, natural fibers and combinations thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the singular strengthening layer is formed of a member selected from the group consisting of a non-woven, a woven fabric and a membrane.

9. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the singular thickness-providing layer has less weight per unit of volume than the singular strengthening layer.

10. (Currently Amended) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the singular thickness-providing layer and the singular strengthening layer are connected via a member selected from the group consisting of ~~by~~ knitting, sewing, needle punching and combinations thereof.

11. (Previously Presented) The strengthening material as claimed in claim 1, wherein said strengthening material comprises two of said singular strengthening layers and one of said singular thickness-providing layer, said singular thickness-providing layer being situated between said two singular strengthening layers.

12.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A laminate comprising:

two or more strengthening materials positioned in a stacked orientation, said strengthening materials each including:

at least one singular thickness-providing layer formed of a knit, said knit being formed of including glass fibers and at least one monofilament and a member selected from the group consisting of glass filaments, glass yarns and combinations thereof; and

at least one singular strengthening layer connected to said singular thickness-providing layer.

17. (Previously Presented) The laminate of claim 16, wherein each of said strengthening material comprises two of said singular strengthening layers and one of said singular thickness-providing layer, said singular thickness-providing layer being sandwiched between said two singular strengthening layers.

18. (Currently Amended) The laminate of claim 16, wherein said at least one monofilament is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polyester, polypropylene, polyamide, synthetic materials and combinations thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) The laminate of claim 16, wherein said singular thickness-providing layer and said singular strengthening layer are connected via a member selected from the group consisting of knitting, sewing, needle punching and combinations thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The laminate of claim 16, wherein said singular thickness-providing layer has a thickness from 0.5 millimeter up to and including 20 millimeters.

21. (Previously Presented) The laminate of claim 16, wherein said singular thickness-providing layer has less weight per unit of volume than said singular strengthening layer.

22. (Previously Presented) The laminate of claim 21, wherein said singular thickness-providing layer has a weight from 25 g/m² up to and including 1500 g/m².

23. (Previously Presented) The laminate of claim 22, wherein said singular thickness-providing layer has a weight from 50 g/m² up to and including 1000 g/m².

24. (Previously Presented) The laminate of claim 23, wherein said singular strengthening layer is selected from the group consisting of glass fibers, aramid, carbon, basalt, ceramic, mixtures of glass and thermoplastics, flax, natural fibers and combinations thereof.